WASHINGTON CHITCHAT

Items of Interest Gathered at the National Capital.

GIFTS REQUESTED OF UNCLE SAM

One Congressman's Constituents Expected Pianos In Lieu of Seeds. Why the Wife of Representative Simplicity.

During the consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill in the house there were several interesting colloquies regarding the experience of members in the distribution of garden and other seeds that are provided by the agricultural department for general distribution by members of congress, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Times.

There is a feeling in some sections of the country that a congressman can get almost anything he asks for at the public expense, and the mail brings many curious requests. It is not an unusual thing for members to receive orders for encyclopedias, dictionaries, etc., and from some of the agricultural districts come requests for farming implements and other articles that would be of value in the cultivation of the soil. The seeds sent out do not always meet expectations, and the consequent disappointment suggests many requests in the way of compensation.

One of the Democratic representatives from Missouri recently received a letter from an agricultural constituent complaining that the seeds sent him had not produced what was anticipated and requesting that a piano be sent him in lieu of seeds and documents. He explained that he had read in a newspaper pianos and parlor organs were being distributed by the agricultural department, and he wanted a

The member replied that he was sorry he could not comply with the request of his constituent. Being a Democrat, the department discriminated against him, he said, and gave pianos and organs only to Republican members, Mr. Bartholdt was the only Republican member from Missouri, he said, and had been awarded all the musical instruments set aside for the Mr. Bartholdt had recently drawn on the children, the lion was taken that every part is in spick and span bone stitch done in heavy white Gretwelve planes for distribution. Mr. among the children, and Dr. Woelston order. The second officers take turns at clan floss. To bias folds of satin are Bartholdt is now engaged in explain- gave it to the youngest of all to stroke standing watch on the bridge and suing to numerous applicants for pianos and organs that he has none of those instruments to distribute and that the government does not include such instruments in its list of articles sent out to the agriculturists of the country.

Representative John Sharp Williams, the leader of the minority in the house, is absentminded. Mrs. Williams joined him after congress met. Representative Williams was in great haste one morning to attend a committee meeting and without waiting for breakfast hurried up to the capitol, says the New York World's Washington correspond-

"B-r-r-r-r:" rang the telephone from the Williams' apartment shortly after Mr. Williams' departure. "What is it?" asked the young wom-

an at the telephone central. ""Please have some one come up and

unlock my door," Mrs. Williams said. "What's the matter?" asked the locksmith when he arrived.

"My husband forgot I was here and locked the door," Mrs. Williams explained.

People who have grown apprehensive lest the White House entertainments were losing their true democratic character were relieved of all fear at a recent reception which was given by the president and Mrs. Roosevelt in honor of the congress of the United States, says the New York Tribune.

statesman from Missouri, was among of an exceptional type who during a the guests. As he was ascending the hypnotic state was extremely sensimarble stairway which leads to the tive to the sound of musical instrumain floor some one called his atten- ments and the human voice, says the tion to the fact that he had forgotten | Chicago Tribune. He appeared on the to remove his overshoes. Not wishing stage and when the music commenced to lose his place in the line, the senator | began to make gestures, following the promptly extricated himself from his rhythm in the most graceful manner. ample goloshes, set them to one side, A song by Miss Garden caused the subplaced his calling card in one and ject to balance his head as if waving

Throughout the evening guests ascending and descending the beautiful War Dance Ousts Cakewalk in Paris stairway viewed with surprise and amusement the conspicuous gum shoes. They were of generous proportions, and as they reposed on the snow white marble they bore mute but eloquent testimony that true Jeffersonian simplicity has not totally disappeared in the nation's capital.

A distinguished contractor who was full of graceful sinuosities and "fetchheaping abuse upon the treasury de- ing" poses and is altogether a far cry partment because it had not seen fit to from the strenuous original. renew a contract which he had held for years called on Secretary Shaw a short time ago and, after failing to get a reconsideration of his proposal, aired his grievance to a group of newspaper men, says the New York Tribune.

Secretary Shaw smiled when he was told what the ex-contractor had said about him and the department. "It seems to be a little hard to wean him." said the secretary. "He doesn't seem to be able to get enough. He is unlike a young country fellow I heard of once who was converted at a camp meeting. He was not accustomed to speaking, but was so happy over his pieces.-Schoolmaster.

conversion that he felt he must tes-

"After struggling to his feet he tried to think of something appropriate. Finally he stammered: 'I'm so happy don't know how to-I'm so happy. I feel so good. I feel just like a calf that's suckin' two cows.""

LION IN SUNDAY SCHOOL. Used by Philadelphia Pastor to Point Out a Moral,

A baby lion four weeks old, borrowed in Philadelphia, the other Sunday.

Dr. Woolston made the baby lion's cility of the little animal and his splendid eyes looking up wonderingly into the face of the clergyman struck the latter as affording an opportunity of giving an object lesson to his Sunday school.

The consent of Trainer Rollins was obtained, and, resting on a bed of straw inside a telescope bag, the little animal was carried into the Sunday school room. Dr. Woolston said:

"Now, children, I want to tell you something about this little fellow. He has been away from his mamma some hours, and he is hungry, and, like a good many little boys I know, he wants to go back to his dear mother, who no doubt misses him very much.

"The little lion has not been named yet, and Mr. Rollins has kindly allowed us to give him a name. We have decided to call him after the youngest member in our cradle department, and upon investigation we find it is Norman Williams Hautz, eight weeks old, whose home is at 609 Miller street.

"The lesson I want you to learn from him before he goes back is this; As you see him now, he is all innocence. He is gentle and docile as the sweetest infant child. By nature he is wicked and savage, and when he grows up to be a big lion if you should meet him in the jungle he would destroy you or lay you prostrate by a blow.

"So it is with children. We are all primarily exist. sinful by nature, but, unlike the lion, our future is open to us. We can all officers, usually the chief officer or first be good boys and good girls, and when officer, second and junior second, third we grow up to manhood and woman- and junior or third officers. The chief illustration. This elegant creation is hood we can still have Christian char- officer is the captain's assistant. He of oyster white satin, princess in efacter and gentleness by following our relieves the latter on the bridge, takes fect. Lord Jesus Christ."

as an evidence of its harmlessness.

MIND WANDERING.

Features of a Disease Discovered by Chicago University President.

A new disease has been discovered by President Harper of the University of Chicago. The disease is that of "mind wandering," and it was brought to the attention of the students of the junior college the other day in a lecture by the president, says a Chicago

"Four men and four women," said Dr. Harper, "from among the number of students at the university have been afflicted with this disorder and have had to leave college. The prime symptom of the disease is lack of ability to concentrate the mind on any subject."

President Harper went on to say that those who have been compelled to drop their work were unable to give a lucid account of what they had been reading after ten minutes' attention to a certain book. Overstudy was suggested as one possible cause of the malady, while another possibility mentioned was too much work on subjects in which the student could not take an interest. Long and systematic perusal of certain lines of work which are especially interesting was suggested as a possible

Novel Test In Hypnotism.

A curious experiment was made one afternoon recently at the Opera Co-Senator Cockrell, the venerable mique, in Paris, on a hypnotic subject his hair.

> The cakewalk a la Francaise is no longer the rage in Paris, says the New York World. It has given way to another North American travesty. This time the Kickapoo Indian reigns in fashionable salons. Possibly no one would be more surprised than the redskins at the edition of their war dance which is served up to the Parisians in buckskin, fringes and feathers. It is

> > Girls Kept In Cages.

It is said that the people of New Britain have a peculiar custom of confining their girls in cages until they reach marriageable age. These cages are built of wood cut from the palm tree and are inside the rude houses. Outside each house is a fence of wickerwork made of reeds. The girls are caged at the age of two or three and are never allowed to go out of the house, yet they seem strong and

Some people pick their company-to

THE SHIP'S COMPANY

HOW A MODERN OCEAN LINER IS OFFICERED AND MANNED.

The Captain Vested With Absolute Power Over Passengers and Crew. Responsibilities of the Chief Engineer-A Floating City.

One of the most remarkable things about the modern ocean liner is the fact that while at sea she gives emfrom a menagerie, was exhibited by ployment to between 300 and 500 peo-John Sharp Williams Knows He Is the Rev. Dr. Clarence H. Woolston, the ple. It might seem incredible that Absentminded - True Jeffersonian pastor, before the Sunday school in the any vessel, even one capable of carry-East Baptist church, Columbia avenue ing from 1,500 to 2,000 passengers, could keep so many men occupied, but it is true that a full count of the offiacquaintance some time ago. The do | cers and crew on any one of the modern Atlantic steamships will give at least the former figure, while on the biggest and most famous ships, such as the Oceanic, Cedric and St. Louis, it falls not far short of the latter.

To begin with the organization of the ship's company from the top, there is first of all the captain. He is the absolute master of the ship and of all on board, with direct responsibility for her safety to her owners and to the traveling public at large. He has control of the ship's navigation and of her internal affairs as well, and he is privileged to clap a member of the crew or a passenger who does not behave himself into irons if he deems it necessary. Perhaps nowhere else can one find an example of such absolute and despotic power as the ship captain may wield if occasion requires.

Under the captain the administration of the big vessel is divided among three departments. The first of these is the deck department, which has charge of the navigation of the vessel; the second is the engineer's department, devoted to operating the boilers and engines, the power producing branch of the steamship; the third is the passenger department, presided over by the purser and the chief steward and having for its chief function to look after the comfort of the travelers for whom the great ship and her elaborate staff

In the deck department are various Following the pastor's little talk, ship and has charge particularly over dation is made up of inset pieces of which seemed to make an impression the cleanliness of the ship, seeing to it tucked satin connected with herringperintending the decks, while the junior officers, as the thirds are called, are



THE CAPTAIN AT HIS POST ON THE BRIDGE. employed in the steering of the vessel, re-elected. He declined to serve a fourth one of them being constantly engaged term and after having played a con-In this work, with the assistance of the spicuous part during the six years of quartermasters.

be noted in the deck department, such | Maryland. as the quartermasters, who perform the In August, 1901, Admiral Schley ment, and the carpenter, who is responsible for the good order of the spars, boats, water tanks and decks and who inspects these and also the masts, yards and pumps twice each day. Besides these officers, there are the ordinary seamen, who perform all sorts of duties, from working the deck machinery to scrubbing the decks and rails to keep them in shining order. Altogether from forty to fifty men are employed

in the deck department. At the head of the engine department is the chief engineer, who has as assistant officers what are known as first, second and third engineers. Next to the captain's post the chief engineer's is the most responsible station in the operation of the liner, and the engineer has under him a great number of workers-the trimmers, who bring the coal from the bunkers to the fire rooms; the stokers, who feed it into the always hungry furnaces, and the greasers, who keep the engine parts clean and well oiled. There are also a number of men who look after the pumps, the blowers and the electrical plant, which greatly to his fame as lawyer as is under the chief engineer's super-

In the passenger department there are two very important officers, one of these being the purser, the man with whom the passengers come into contact most frequently and who is largely responsible for the popularity or unpopularity of the ship

The other principal officer in this de- wanted .- Chicago Tribune,

partment is the chief steward, who exercises authority over a small army of stateroom stewards, saloon stewards, stewardesses, cooks, scullions, storekeepers and bootblacks, and who selects the food and makes out the menus for the meals. *

AN ELEGANT CREATION.

White Satin Gown Ornamented With Silken Fringes.

The gowns of today have certainly reached the height of all their sartorial greatness and glory. Extravagance, picturesqueness and grace are blended



A GOWN OF THE MOMENT.

in the modes of the moment, with a perfect sense of proportion and beauty. Devotees of fashion are supposed to be reveling in modistic simplicity, but it is about the most expensive example of the "simple dress" the contouriere can devise or the client's pocketbook

Along the lines of up to date simplicity comes the gown shown in the

his place in the daily inspection of the The entire gown over the satin foun-

A dress of this design could be happily carried out in one of the dainty shades of pastel voile and trimmed with the fashionable macrame fringe so much used at present.

MARYLAND'S NEW SENATOR. Isidor Rayner, Who Was Counsel For

Rear Admiral Schley, Isidor Rayner, who has just been elected United States senator from Maryland to succeed Senator Louis E. McComas, the present incumbent, is one of the most famous lawyers of the state and an orator of renown.

Senator Rayner is best known to the country at large as Rear Admiral Schley's counsel during the investigation in 1901 of that officer's conduct in the Spanish war. Born in Baltimore in 1850, he was educated at the University of Virginia, in 1871 was admitted to the bar and for many years has been a prominent figure in public life.

Mr. Rayner soon became known in his native city as a brilliant lawyer. He was elected in 1878 to the legislature. where the announcement that he would speak always filled the galleries during the one term that he served. In 1886 he was elected to congress and was twice his service retired in 1892. Seven years Then a number of petty officers is to later he was elected attorney general of and farm were gathered in the great

actual work of steering the ship; the asked Mr. Rayner to represent him at across the channel was the difficulty. chief boatswain and his assistants, who the naval inquiry arising out of the Once landed in England, Napoleon look after the rigging and deck equip- Sampson-Schley controversy, and Ray-



SENATOR ISIDOR RAYNER. ner accepted and in the trial a ded

Where Three Is a Crowd. Tom-I suppose you spent a pleasant

evening with your best girl. Dick-Pleasant? Huh! A fellow can't make love to his girl in a crowd. Tom-Oh, was there a crowd there? Dick-Yes, and the chump didn't have

sense enough to realize that he wasn't

NAPOLEON'S FIASCO.

CENTENARY OF THE FIRST CONSUL'S PROJECTED INVASION OF ENGLAND.

How the Fun Makers of a Century Ago Treated Friend and Foe-Queer Conceits of the Cartoonists - The Famous Flotilla.

Our British cousins are just now celebrating in a humorous way the cen-1804. The celebration, if such it may be called, consists mainly in the republication of the numerous caricatures and cartoons of the great Corsican, his army and fleet, which ap- done. peared in the public prints of that

04 would lead one to think that Napo- me why when you open a bottle of leon was held in contempt and as a fit wine you pour a few drops into the subject for laughter and scoffing, the invasion planned was serious enough, and there is no doubt that the prepa-England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

of it), and old guns which had not seen the host is given the first drops. the light for years were furbished up pending the arrival of supplies of into the hands of local treasurers.

There was fear that some fine morning the tramp of the Frenchmen might necessity, for over there they pour a be heard, and to guard against sur- little oil in the necks of their bottles of prises beacons with which to flash the call to arms were established on every headland and hilltop. False alarms tight. No doubt it does, but it also in were not uncommon, and many an some cases gives to the first glass from amusing tale is told of yeomen, swelling with patriotism, marching forth to fore the first glass the host gallantly meet a foe that never came.

So great was the excitement that the whole country became an armed camp. Citizens strode about with muskets on their shoulders, professors and students paraded on college campuses, and side arms were worn by judges and members of the bar. In France, where the lust for con-

quest was rampant, the enthusiasm was intense. Veterans of many campaigns and conscripts from workshop





NAPOLEON IN 1804 AND AS THE BRITISH CARICATURIST SAW HIM.

camp at and near Boulogue to the number of 140,000. But to ferry the army might have entered London, but that strip of water proved an insuperable obstacle.

In every port of France and Holland the building of transports was pushed. These were of various sizes, from vesboats to sea on one tide. Half of the great army would be forced to wait outside in their unstable boats for twelve hours before it could be foined by the other half. This was altogether too perilous an undertaking, and the

projected invasion came to naught. But all this gave the British cartoonists their opportunity, and they made the most of it. One of them pictured the army crossing the channel on a great raft. Another pictured Napoleon entering London seated on a horse, with his face to the tail and escorted by the Honorable Artillery company. John Bull and the pitchfork armed veomanry also excited the humor of the artists, for they were impartial with their favors and struck friend as well as foe,

Napoleon's proposed invasion of Eng-

land is now but a memory, and if it served no other purpose than to stir JAPAN'S up the wits it certainly added to the gayety of nations in that respect. England and France are now good friends | Wonderful Advance After a Sleep and can afford to laugh together at the war which never took place.

WHY WINE FIRST TO HOST.

In America a Mere Formality, but In Italy a Real Necessity.

The wine was opened dextrously by tenary of the intended invasion of the waiter, who before serving the their tight little isle by Napoleon I, in guests poured a few drops into the host's glass.

> "Why did this waiter give you a little wine before helping the rest of us?" asked a man of curious mind. "Oh," said the host, "that's always

"I know it's always done. That does not answer my question, though. Here, While the British cartoons of 1803- waiter," the man persisted, "you tell host's glass before serving the guests."

The waiter smiled and answered: "It's a matter of form, sir; an old custom, a politeness. Its origin lies in rations for it caused much alarm in the fact that after the removal of the cork there might be left in the neck of In the rural districts of England the the bottle a little dust or a few specks enthusiasm was prodigious, and coun- of cork. The first drops poured out try yokels were drilled with axes and would in that event contain the dust or pitchforks (a fact that did not escape the cork, and thus the guest were he the cartoonists, who made the most served first might get this refuse; hence

"As a matter of fact, if you know how to open wine you have no difficulty arms, for which subscriptions poured in keeping the bottle's neck clean. The custom, therefore, is a formality in America. In Italy, though, it is a real native wine before corking on the ground that this makes the wine air the bottle a decidedly oily flavor. Theretakes."-Philadelphia Record.

HE WON THE AUDIENCE.

The Way Fred Douglass Got the Best of Captain Rynders.

The inexhaustible sense of humor in Frederick Douglass kept him clear of any sense of gloom, as was never better seen than on the once famous occasion when the notorious Isaiah Rynders of New York, at the head of a mob, had interrupted an antislavery meeting, captured the platform, placed himself in the chair and bidden the meeting proceed. Douglass was speaking and, nothing loath, made his speech only keener and keener for the interference, weaving around the would be Mutsuhito at sixteen years of age chairman's head a wreath of delicate sarcasm which carried the audience with it, while the duller wits of the burly despot could hardly follow him. Knowing only in a general way that he The mikado restored to full power, was being dissected, Rynders at last exclaimed, "What you abolitionists want to do is to cut all our throats!" "Oh, no," replied Douglass in his most dulcet tones; "we would only cut your hair." And, bending over the shaggy and frowzy head of the Bowery tyrant, he gave a suggestive motion as of scisa professional politeness that instantly Abolition of the feudal system; the brought down the house, friend and foe, while Rynders quitted the chair in wrath and the meeting dissolved itself | First appearance of newspapers. cheerful conclusion perhaps than that speare so often ends his scenes, "Exeunt fighting." - Thomas Wentworth Officials obliged to wear European Higginson in Atlantic.

A Good Place to Avoid. In the northern Shan states, on the Revocation of the edicts against border of Burma, there is a tribe called | Christianity ... the Wild Was. These people propitiate with human skulls the demons whom Beginning of the southern rebellion at they worship. Outside every village in their country there are many posts, all End of the southern rebellion and in one line, decked with human skulls. Okubo assassinated May 14. A niche is cut in the back of each post, National exhibition in Tokyo opened with a ledge on which the skull can | March 11 rest and grin through a hole in front of it. Every village has a dozen and The United States returns the Shisome as many as a hundred of these head posts. Fresh skulls are in special Rehabilitation of old nobility July 9... 1884 request at harvest time and are purchased for large sums, those of distinguished visitors being particularly de- The constitutions granted by the em-

She Shut.

A story is told of Count Schouvaloff, a former Russian ambassador to Engsels carrying thirty-eight sailors and land. He greatly admired Englishwo-130 soldiers to small boats intended to men and was heartily annoyed when Surrender of Weihaiwei ... hold five sailors and from fifty to sixty he offended any one of them. While Treaty of peace of Simonoseki besoldiers. Napoleon said that 2,000 of he was in London he learned English, these craft would be required, but that and, having heard one famous English Adoption of gold standard in Japan ... 1897 number was never reached, although a beauty say "Shut up." to another, he Treaty revision; end of exterritorialgreat flotilla was gathered. So numer- imagined it to be a phrase of polite ous were the vessels that it had been agreement, such as "Say no more." In necessary to enlarge and deepen many this sense he himself addressed it to Alliance with Great Britain of the French harbors to accommodate an illustrious lady the next night at them. Then it was discovered that it dinner, to the lady's consternation, and would be impossible to get all of the his own when later he discovered his mistake.

Played an Organ.

The little daughter of a well known New York musician was much cha- and wait for a cow to back up to you grined the other day by the ingenuous remark of a "new friend." Said the little girl proudly:

"My father is an organist." "And does he have a monkey?" was the prompt rejoinder.

Novelty Excited Curiosity. Owtlaight-I had an awful time thinking up an excuse to give my wife

when I got home from the club last Lushman-Did she demand one? Owtlaight-Of course. I got home so

early that it piqued her curiosity .- Ex-

CHRONOLOGY

of Two Centuries.

THE ROUGH AWAKENING BY PERRY

First Year of the Meiji, or Enlightened Rule, Dates From Nov. 6, 1868, Present Mikado Succeeded His Father at the Age of Sixteen-Progress of Western Ideas.

The following chronology of Japan's advance during the last two centuries is from the New York Times:

Beginning of the Tokugawa line of Shogun. Iyeyasu makes Yeddo his capital ... Edict against the Christians by Iyeyasu Persecution begins . Will Adams, an English pilot, lands at Bungo, April 19, 1600; dies ... forbidden to leave the country...... A several years' massacre of Chris-tians begins. The Dutch factory removed from Firando to Dashima 1641 Rising of Shimabara. Christians huried from Popemberg ... Arrival of Commodore Perry In the bay of Yeddo, July 8 ... Treaty with the United States signed,

March 31 Cownsend Harris concludes a treaty of foreign residence . Yokohama, Nagasaki and Hakodate open to trade, July 1. First embassy to the United States, January ... The regent, Ti Hamon uo Kami, assassinated, March 3 ... Mr. Heusken, interpreter United States legation, assassinated . Attack on the legation, July 5....... 1851. First embassy to Europe ... English attacked near Yekohama and

one killed by the followers of Shimadzu Saburo, father of the daimio of Satsuma; £100,000 paid by the government An American steamer and French and Dutch corvet fired upon by two men-of-war of the prince of The United States corvet Wyoming engages the two men-of-war, July., 1863 wo French war steamers soon after destroy a battery.

Bombardment of Kagoshima by the English, August American and English legations burned Simonoseki bombardment by nine English, three French, four Dutch and one American men-of-war. Sept. 5 and 6...

Japan forced to pay an indemnity—
the Simonoseki indemnity—of \$3.-000,000 in all, which is afterward re-

while going to an audience with the mikado, March 23..... succeeds his father as one hundred and twenty-first (or one hundred and twenty-third) mikado, Feb. 3.... 1867 Hlogo, Osaka and Yeddo opened, Jan. Jan. 3 An officer and ten French sailers

murdered at Sakat, near Osaka, by a detachment of Tosa troops...... Battle of Fushimi Jan. 28.. Battle of Ueno July 4 ... First year of Meiji (enlightened rule) Nov. 6 The mikado removes to Yeddo, which changes its name to Tokyo and is made capital of the empire Nov. 26.. 1868 sors to his thumb and forefinger with Hakodate taken; war ended June 8.... 1869

daimios relegated to private life and retired on pensions of one-tenth of their former revenue July 5 amid general laughter. It was a more | Embassy representing the national government makes the circuit of the stormier one-not unknown in reforma- First railway in Japan opened Oct. 13. 1872 tory conventions-with which Shake- Attempted assassination of Iwakura

Adoption of the Gregorian calendar... 1873 dress when on duty War against Formosa, May 1874 Exchange of Saghalien for Kurile (Chishima) islands Treaty between Japan and Feb. 27 Kumamoto, Oct. 24..... death of Saigo Tagamori.

Rescript promising the opening of monoseki indemnity Official priesthood abolished Aug. 11., 1884 Japanese troops in Seoul attacked by Chinese and Koreans. perer promulgated Feb. 11. First imperial diet meets November. 1890

International exhibition in Tokyo... Attempt on the life of the czar when traveling in Japan. Japan declares war on China Feb. 12., 1895 Burrender of Chinese navy and suicide of admiral tween Japanese and Chinese; acquisition of Formosa ..

Japan joins the powers in war against

A Parallel. An old farmer said to his sons: "Boys, don't you walt for somethin' to turn up. You might jest as well go and sit down on a stone in the middle of a meadow with a pail 'twixt your legs

to be milked."

Perverse. He-Won't you let me give you just one kiss before I go? She-Will just one satisfy you? He-Yes, darling.

She-Then I won't give it to you .-

Standard. One Sweetly Pleasant Thought. Georgiana-We are not old.

Juliana-Oh, yes, we are, my dear. Georgiana - Well, we are just as young as any girls of our age in town. -Indianapolis Journal.